

**REMEDIAL SITE ASSESSMENT DECISION - EPA REGION II**

Site Name: ELIZABETH C/GAS SITE, #2 EPA ID#: NJD981082902 State ID#:

Alias Site Names: "NJ COAL GAS SITES"

City: ELIZABETH County or Parish: UNION State: NJ

Refer to Report Dated: 93/11/28 Report type: SIP

Report developed by: WESTON

DECISION:

☒ 1. Further Remedial Site Assessment under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:

☒ 1a. Site does not qualify for further remedial
site assessment under CERCLA
(Site Evaluation Accomplished - SEA)

☐ 1b. Site may qualify for further
action, but is deferred to:

☐ 2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA:

2a. Priority: ☐ Higher ☐ Lower

2b. Other: (recommended action) NFRAP

DISCUSSION/RATIONALE:

THE WESTON SIP WAS COMPLETED ON 29 NOVEMBER 1993, W/ THE RECOMMENDATION THAT "NO FURTHER REMEDIAL ACTION BE PROPOSED" AT THIS TIME. (NFRAP)

EXISTING MONITORING WELLS WILL CONTINUE TO BE SAMPLED FOR ANY INDICATION OF GROUND WATER CONTAMINATION AND/OR MIGRATION OF CONTAMINANTS BEYOND THE SITE LIMITS.

GW: GROUND WATER HAS BEEN CONTAMINATED BY RESIDUES FROM THE FORMER COAL GAS MANUFACTURING PROCESSES. THESE RESIDUES WERE DUMPED INTO OPEN PITS ON THE SITE DURING THE MANUFACTURE OF COAL GAS.

THE HUMMOCKS WELL FIELD IN UNION COUNTY IS ALSO LOCATED 3.75 MILES NORTH OF THE SITE AND THIS WELL FIELD CONSISTS OF EIGHT (8) POTABLE WATER WELLS WHICH ARE PART OF THE OVERALL SYSTEM OF 100 WELLS, WHICH SUPPLY DRINKING WATER TO OVER 507,000 PEOPLE IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA.

ALSO WITHIN THE 4.0 MILE RADIUS, THERE ARE SIX (6) ADDITIONAL DRINKING WATER WELLS, HOWEVER THESE PARTICULAR WELLS ARE CURRENTLY OUT-OF-SERVICE, DUE TO THE EXTREMELY POOR QUALITY OF THE GROUND WATER.

SW: A RELEASE TO SURFACE WATER HAS NOT BEEN OBSERVED, AND NO SURFACE WATER SAMPLING IS KNOWN TO HAVE OCCURED, WITH RESPECT TO THIS SITE. THE SITE IS ALSO LOCATED BETWEEN THE LIMITS OF THE 100 AND 500 YEAR FLOOD ZONES AND IS ALSO SEPARATED FROM THE ELIZABETH RIVER BY A MAN-MADE CONCRETE BULKHEAD. (THE LOCAL FLOOD CONTROL PROGRAM)

SOIL: THE SOIL EXPOSURE PATHWAY REMAINS A MAJOR PROBLEM, WITH SURFICAL AND SUB-SURFACE SOILS HEAVILY CONTAMINATED BY PAH'S, VOC'S, SVOC'S, PESTICIDES AND INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS. THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE SITE IS ALSO ACCESSIBLE TO THE LOCAL POPULATION WITH A SMALL BASEBALL FIELD CONSSSTRUCTED IN THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE PROPERTY. THE SITE IS ALSO COMPLETELY FENCED, BUT ACCESS TO THE SITE IS EASILY GAINED THROUGH OPEN GATES ALONG HIGH STREET. DIRECT EXPOSURE TO THE CONTAMINATED SOIL WILL CONTINUE TO BE A PROBLEM AND MAY REQUIRE (RCRA) REMEDIATION AS PART OF A LOCAL CLEAN-UP OPERATION.

AIR: THE AIR PATHWAY IS NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SIX (6) RESIDENCES WITHIN 200 FEET OF THE SITE.

IN SUMMARY:

THE SITE IS CONSIDERED TO BE A "MINIMAL RISK" TO HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT, AND CONTINUED SAMPLING OF THE MONITORING WELLS IS RECOMMENDED AND THE POSSIBILITY OF SOIL REMOVAL AND/OR REMEDIATION BY (RCRA) SHOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED. THE SOIL PATHWAY HAZARD IS CONSIDERED THE MAJOR THREAT TO THE LOCAL POPULATION, AS WELL AS THE CHILDREN USING THE PLAYGROUND AREAS CONSTRUCTED ON THE SITE. ALSO, SPECIFIC ATTEMPTS SHOULD BE MADE TO ELIMINATE THE AREAS OF STANDING WATER, AS THEY MAY CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO SURFACE WATER CONTAMINATION, AND ENDANGER CHILDREN PLAYING NEAR THESE PONDED AREAS.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

DISCOVERY: 04/01/1985

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT: 04/30/1985 BY MALCOLM PIRNIE W/A "HIGHER PRIORITY"

SCREENING SITE INSPECTION: 09/25/90 BY NUS W/ A "HIGHER PRIORITY"

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION: STARTED: 07/01/1990, COMPLETED: 09/25/1990
W/ REQUEST FOR REMOVAL ASSESSMENT UNDER CERCLA.

Site Decision
Made by: ELGIN P. PRUDER

Signature: Juan E Nails

Date: 94/08/31 94/07/22

EPA Form # 9100-3
